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AUTHOR	Shermis, Michael
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ABSTRACT

This annotated bibliography contains 28 references to articles in the ERIC database about interpersonal communication. It contains citations from the period between 1987 and 1989 and is divided into three sections. The first section presents several citations for instructional strategies in the area of interpersonal communications. The second section consists of resources on gender issues, for example, complaint interaction, idiomatic communication, nonsexist communication, conflict strategies, and marital conversations. Articles and papers in the last section represent a wide variety of different kinds of research and theory on topics such as employment screening, organizational innovation, encoding patterns, interpersonal versus mass media communication, problem solving, and the intercultural reentry process. (MS)

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Interpersonal Communication

by Michael Shermis

This bibliography reflects the explosion of research and writing on and about interpersonal communication that has been added to the ERIC database from 1987 through 1989. The first section of the FAST Bib presents a few citations for instructional strategies in the area of interpersonal communication. The second section consists of resources on gender issues, for example complaint interactions, idiomatic communication, nonsexist communication, conflict strategies, and marital conversations. Articles and papers in the last section represent a wide variety of different kinds of research and theory, on topics such as employment screening, organizational innovation, encoding patterns, interpersonal versus mass media communication, problem solving, and the intercultural reentry process.

Abstracts for some of the articles cited here have been abbreviated to conform to the *FAST Bib* format. The ED numbers for sources included in *Resources in Education* have been included to enable the user to go directly to microfiche collections, to order from the ERIC Document Reproduction Service (EDRS), or to go to *RIE* for the full abstract on those sources not available through EDRS. The most current and up-to-date references on this list have not yet been assigned an ED number. If a document has a CS number rather than an ED number, look in *RIE* or the ERIC database to find the corresponding ED number. The citations to journals are from the *Current Index to Journals in Education*, and these articles can be acquired most economically from library collections or through interlibrary loans. Reprint services are also available from University Microfilms International (UMI) and from the Original Article Tearsheet Service (OATS) of the Institute for Scientific Information.

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Instructional Strategies

Aitken, Joan E. "Using Q Technique in Teaching Humanities: Including a Student-designed Q-Sort on the Effects of Alcohol Use on Communication." Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the National Association for Humanities Education, 1989. 32p. [CS 506 549]

Instructional applications of Q methodology (a set of procedures that can be used in studying the subjective nature of things) provide a means for teaching communication skills, analyzing thinking patterns, making comparative analyses, and structuring intrapersonal processes.

Bengtsson, Hans. "Psychological Mechanisms in Children with Deficient Empathy and Sympathy," *School Research Newsletter*, n5 p1-5 Nov 1988.

Contends that the development of empathy, sympathy and consideration for others ranks as an important ingredient of social education in

schools. Presents techniques designed to be applicable to an evaluation of the effect of different interventions aimed at promoting empathetic attitudes.

Reis, Elizabeth M. "Conferencing Skills: Working with Parents," *Clearing House,* v62 n2 p81-83 Oct 1988.

Offers five tips that teachers can use to improve their skills in communicating with parents. Discusses each tip and provides a scripted example emphasizing how each tip could be used in a parent-teacher conference.

Wong, Irene B. "Teacher-Student Talk in Technical Writing Conferences," *Written Communication,* v5 n9 p444-60 Oct 1988.

Explores one-to-one communication in teacher-student conferences in a college-level technical writing course. Examines whether the need to access their different knowledge bases would foster substantive conversational exchanges between instructor and student.

Gender Issues

Alberts, J. K. "A Descriptive Taxonomy of Couples' Complaint Interactions," *Southern Speech Communication Journal,* v54 n2 p125-43 Win 1989.

Offers an overview of couples' complaint behavior by describing complaint types, response types, complaint-response sequencing, and the environment in which such complaining occurs. Examines differences in reported complaint behavior between males and females and between satisfied and dissatisfied couples.

Bell, Robert A.; and others. "'Did You Bring the Yarmulke for the Cabbage Patch Kid?' The Idiomatic Communication of Young Lovers," *Human Communication Research,* v14 n1 p47-67 Fall 1987.

Examines relationships of idiomatic communication (including words, phrases, and nonverbal signs) to the interpersonal sentiments of 100 romantically involved heterosexual couples. Finds that loving, commitment, and closeness correlated with the number of idioms expressing affection and referring to sexual matters. Notes that males invented idioms more than females.

Bowers, Bege K.; and others. "Guidelines for Nonsexist Communication." Youngstown State Univ., Ohio. 1988.17 p. [CS 506 534]

Lays out guidelines for nonsexist communication. Offers additional recommendations for nonsexist communication in the classroom and elsewhere in the university community.

Canary, Daniel J.; Spitzberg, Brian H. "Appropriateness and Effectiveness Perceptions of Conflict Strategies," *Human Communication Research,* v14 n1 p93-118 Fall 1987.

Investigates how conflict strategies and communicator gender affect two properties of communicative competence, appropriateness and effectiveness, and how these properties are associated with interpersonal attraction.

Infante, Dominic A. "Response to High Argumentatives: Message and Sex Differences," *Southern Speech Communication Journal,* v54 n2 p159-70 Win 1989.

Examines communicative responses to the highly argumentative person. Finds that the adversary's use of verbal aggression provokes male subjects to be more verbally aggressive, but stimulates female subjects to be more argumentative.

Sanders, Judith A.; and others. "The Influence of Gender on the Uncertainty Reduction Strategies of Disclosure, Interrogation, and Nonverbal Immediacy." Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the Western Speech Communication Association, 1989. 24p. [CS 506 593]

Examines gender differences in the uses of uncertainty reduction strategies (self-disclosure, interrogative strategies, nonverbal immediacy, and other's self-disclosure) and their interrelationships with attributional confidence (uncertainty reduction). Results revealed significant gender differences in the uses of uncertainty reduction strategies. While both males and females used another person's self-disclosure to reduce uncertainty, the other person's disclosures were more important for reducing women's relational uncertainty. Also, men felt that their own self-disclosures helped them reduce relational uncertainty, but women relied more on interrogation strategies and nonverbal immediacy to reduce uncertainty. Furthermore, gender differences were also noted in how these strategies were used to increase attributional confidence. While both men and women primarily used their own self-disclosure to elicit other's self-disclosure, women also incorporated use of interrogative strategies and greater use of nonverbal immediacy (smiling, eye contact,

touching). Men tended to rely more on interrogation strategies.

Sillars, Alan L.; and others. "Content Themes in Marital Conversations," *Human Communication Research*, v13 n4 p495-528 Sum 1987.

Suggests that prominent themes in the conversations of spouses are metacommunication about relationships. Compares content themes of different marital types (traditional, separate, and independent) and more or less satisfied spouses. Finds marital satisfaction tends to be positively associated with communal and impersonal themes and negatively associated with individual themes.

Communication Research and Theory

Ayres, Joe. "The Impact of Communication Apprehension and Interaction Structure on Initial Interactions," *Communication Monographs*, v56 n1 p75-88 Mar 1989.

Examines the impact of communication apprehension (CA) and interaction structure on participants' perceptions and behavior during initial interactions. Finds that high and low CA males perceived their female interaction partners differently, while females reported less satisfying interactions in the structured versus unstructured condition.

Bastien, David T.; Hostager, Todd J. "Jazz as a Process of Organizational Innovation," *Communication Research*, v15 n5 p582-602 Oct 1988.

Studies the process whereby four jazz musicians coordinate an inventive performance, without rehearsal or the use of sheet music. Identifies a basic strategy of shared information, communication, and attention for inventing and coordinating increasingly complex musical ideas. Draws implications for the study and management of organizational innovation.

Berger, Charles R.; Chaffee, Steven H. "On Bridging the Communication Gap," *Human Communication Research*, v15 n2 p311-18 Win 1988.

Outlines four factors that account for the relative lack of integration between mass communication and interpersonal communication researchers. Cites several forces that support segregation of the two research areas, yet notes that the recent turn to cognitive explanations of communication in both fields may create the climate for meaningful collaboration.

Coker, Deborah A.; Burgoon, Judee K. "The Nature of Conversational Involvement and Nonverbal Encoding Patterns," *Human Communication Research*, v13 n4 p463-94 Sum 1987.

Examines specific nonverbal behaviors that express conversational involvement (the degree to which participants in a communicative exchange are cognitively and behaviorally engaged in the topic, relationship, and/or situation) along five dimensions: immediacy, expressiveness, interaction management, altercentrism, and social anxiety. Finds specific behaviors that strongly discriminate high from low involvement.

Dillard, James Price; and others. "Primary and Secondary Goals in the Production of Interpersonal Influence Messages," *Communication Monographs*, v56 n1 p19-38 Mar 1989.

Argues that an individual's activities prior to and during an interpersonal influence attempt may be explained by his or her goals. Examines primary and secondary goals, their relationships to one another, and how they shape the interpersonal influence process in terms of planning, effort, directness, positivity, and logic.

Dindia, Kathryn. "A Comparison of Several Statistical Tests of Reciprocity of Self-Disclosure," Communication Research, v15 n6 p726-52 Dec 1988.

Reports the results of a study that used several statistical tests of reciprocity of self-disclosure. Finds little evidence for reciprocity of self-disclosure, and concludes that either reciprocity is an illusion, or that different or more sophisticated methods are needed to detect it.

Drass, Kriss A. "Discourse and Occupational Perspective: A Comparison of Nurse Practitioners and Physician Assistants," *Discourse Processes*, v11 n2 p163-81 Apr-Jun 1988.

Examines the differences in perspective and training of nurse practitioners and physician assistants, and effects of these on their interactive strategies with patients. Shows how the macro issue of differences in occupational perspective can be incorporated into micro studies of the form and content of talk in social interactions.

Engler-Parish, Patricia G.; Millar, Frank E. "An Exploratory Relational Control Analysis of the Employment Screening Interview," *Western Journal of Speech Communication*, v53 n1 p30-51 Win 1989.

Focuses on correlations between messages enacted during employment interviews and participants' subsequent perceptions about the interview's success. Indicates cybernetic tension in the interviewer-interviewee relationship. Shows a relationship between the ways this tension was balanced during the interview and its perceived success.

Hosman, Lawrence A. "The Evaluative Consequences of Hedges, Hesitations, and Intensifiers: Powerful and Powerless Speech Styles," *Human Communication Research,* v15 n3 p383-406 Spr 1989.

Examines the separate and combined impact of hedges, hesitations, and intensifiers on perceptions of authoritativeness, sociability, character, and similarity, and the extent to which messages containing one or more of these language variables differ from a "prototypically" powerless message in evaluative consequences.

Isenhart, Myra W. "Interpersonal Communication in High Tech Culture: Eastern or Western?" *Journal of Applied Communication Research,* v15 n1-2 p35-52 Spr-Fall 1987.

Investigates interpersonal communication in a high tech organization to test the association between high tech organizations and Western styles of symbolic interaction. Takes a diagnostic, rather than prescriptive, approach to organizational change.

Kosberg, Roberta L.; Rancer, Andrew S. "Enhancing Trait Argumentativeness and Skill in Arguing: A Review of Instructional Methods." Paper presented at the 80th Annual Meeting of the Eastern Communication Association, 1989. 20p. [CS 506 501]

The communication discipline has advanced the belief that arguing (high argumentativeness) is a constructive communication activity. Recent research efforts have attempted the integration of principles from argumentation, interpersonal communication, and conflict management. Several benefits of high motivation to argue and skill in informal arguing have been identified.

O'Keefe, Barbara J.; McCornack, Steven A. "Message Design Logic and Message Goal Structure: Effects on Perceptions of Message Quality in Regulative Communication Situations," *Human Communication Research,* v14 n1 p68-92 Fall 1987.

Explores the consequences of differences in message design logic and goal structures for success in regulative communication situations. Finds that the level of message design logic was associated with every type of assessed effectiveness. Notes that differences in message goal structures had more selective effects on message evaluations.

Palmer, Mark T. "Controlling Conversations: Turns, Topics, and Interpersonal Control," *Communication Monographs,* v56 n1 p1-18 Mar 1989.

Examines managing floor time and topical focus as manifestations of interpersonal dominance in conversations. Finds that the longer a conversational partner talks, and the less related are his or her remarks, the more that partner is perceived to be in control.

Perse, Elizabeth M.; Rubin, Rebecca B. "Attribution in Social and Parasocial Relationships," *Communication Research,* v16 n1 p59-77 Feb 1989.

Examines social and parasocial interaction from interpersonal attribution perspectives. Finds subjects' relationships with soap opera characters, like social relationships with real people, are based on reduction of uncertainty and ability to predict the character's feelings and attitudes. Discusses implications for uncertainty reduction theory and personal construct theory.

Reardon, Kathleen K.; Rogers, Everett M. "Interpersonal versus Mass Media Communication: A False Dichotomy," *Human Communication Research,* v15 n2 p284-303 Win 1988.

Challenges the intellectual separation of interpersonal and mass media communication, arguing that this division rests primarily on grounds of historical convenience and university politics. Discusses the consequences of this dichotomy and suggests ways of encouraging intellectual exchange between the two subdisciplines.

Seiter, John S.; Waddell, Debra. "The Intercultural Reentry Process: Reentry Shock; Locus of Control; Satisfaction; and Interpersonal Uses of Communication." Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the Western Speech Communication Association, 1989. 27p. [CS 506 575]

Examines American college and university students' successful reentry after a period abroad, hypothesized to be influenced by their locus of control for affiliation, interpersonal uses for communication, and relational satisfaction. Finds that

reentry was not associated with either internal or external locus of control in this study and that reentry shock can lead to improved interpersonal skills, improved relationships with family members, and even increased intrapersonal knowledge.

Witteman, Hal. "Interpersonal Problem Solving: Problem Conceptualization and Communication Use," *Communication Monographs,* v55 n4 p336-59 Dec 1988.

Examines the relationship between four types of communication (i.e., integrative, distributive, indirect, and avoidance) and fourteen perceptions of problem situations. Finds that a relatively specific relationship exists between each type of communication and the set of perceptions for both personally experienced and undefined problem situations.

ERIC Clearinghouse on Reading and Communication Skills
Indiana University
Smith Research Center
2805 East Tenth Street
Bloomington, IN 47408
(812) 855-5847

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